

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Lars BLANK et al.

Title: METHOD OF IMPROVING BIOMASS YIELD OF LACTIC ACID  
BACTERIAL CULTURES

Prior Appl. No.: 09/898,490

Appl. No.: Unassigned

Prior Appl. Filing Date: 07/05/2001

Filing Date: 07/22/2003

Examiner: Leon LANKFORD

Art Unit: 1651

**CONTINUING PATENT APPLICATION**  
**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) is a:

☐ Continuation ☒ Division ☐ Continuation-In-Part (CIP)

of the above-identified copending prior application in which no patenting, abandonment, or termination of proceedings has occurred. Priority to the above-identified prior application is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120 for this continuing application. The entire disclosure of the above-identified prior application is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuing application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27.

Enclosed are:

☒ Application Data Sheet (37 CFR 1.76) (3 pages).

☒ Preliminary Amendment (7 pages).

☒ Specification, Claims, and Abstract (48 pages).

☒ Formal drawings (2 sheets, Figures 1-2).

☒ Declaration and Power of Attorney (4 pages).

☒ Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages).☒ Form PTOSB/08 (3 pages).

The filing fee is calculated below:

	Claims as Filed	Included in Basic Fee	Extra Claims	Rate	Fee Totals
Basic Fee				\$750.00	\$750.00
Total Claims:	13	20	= 0	x \$18.00	= \$0.00
Independents:	3	3	= 0	x \$84.00	= \$0.00
If any Multiple Dependent Claim(s) present:				+ \$280.00	= \$0.00
				SUBTOTAL:	= \$750.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Fees Apply (subtract 1/2 of above):					= \$0.00
				TOTAL FILING FEE:	= \$750.00

☒ A check in the amount of \$750.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.☐ The required filing fees are not enclosed but will be submitted in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application.☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney or agent at the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 22 July 2003By S. A. BentFOLEY & LARDNER  
Customer Number: 22428

22428

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Telephone: (202) 672-5404

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Stephen A. Bent  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 29,768